

A National Approach to Standards and Terminology for Recovery Residences

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What does
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National Association of Recovery Residences

Member Standard

*Version 1.0
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1. → Organizational/Administrative Standards	Level-I	Level-II	Level-III	Level-IV
1.1. → Recovery Residences are legal business entities as evidenced by business licenses or incorporation documents;	Strongly Recommend	Strongly Recommend	X	X
1.2. → Recovery Residences have a written mission and vision statement;	X	X	X	X
1.3. → Recovery Residences have a written code of ethics;	X	X	X	X
1.4. → Recovery Residences property owners/operators carry general liability insurance;	Strongly Recommend	Strongly Recommend	X	X
1.5. → Recovery Residences comply with state and federal requirements. If required, documents such as licenses and certificates of occupancy are visible for public view;	X	X	X	X

4. Recovery Support Standards	Level I	Level II	Level III	Level IV
4.1. Recovery Residences maintain a staffing plan;	If Applicable	If Applicable	X	X
4.2. Recovery Residences use an applicant screening process that helps maintain a safe and supportive environment for a specific group of persons in recovery;	X	X	X	X
4.3. Recovery Residences adhere to applicable confidentiality laws;	X	X	X	X
4.4. Recovery Residences keep resident records secure with access limited to authorized staff only;	X	X	X	X
4.5. Recovery Residences have a grievance policy and procedure for residents;	X	X	X	X
4.6. Recovery Residences create a safe, structured, and recovery supportive environment through written and enforced residents' rights and requirements;	X	X	X	X

5. → Property Standards ^α	Level-I ^α	Level-II ^α	Level-III ^α	Level-IV ^α
5.1. → Recovery Residences abide by all local building and fire safety codes; ^α	X ^α	X ^α	X ^α	X ^α
5.2. → Recovery Residences provide each residents with food and personal item storage; ^α	X ^α	X ^α	X ^α	X ^α
5.3. → Recovery Residences place functioning fire extinguishers in plain sight and/or in clearly marked locations; ^α	X ^α	X ^α	X ^α	X ^α
5.4. → Recovery Residences have functioning smoke detectors installed. If the residence has gas appliances, functioning carbon monoxide detectors are installed; ^α	X ^α	X ^α	X ^α	X ^α
5.5. → Recovery Residences provide a non-smoking internal living environment; ^α	X ^α	X ^α	X ^α	X ^α

Standards Criteria

Administrative

Organizational structures that create and maintain safe, supportive living environments.

Services

Elements that cultivate community culture and individual recovery.

Environmental

Dwellings that are safe and recovery conducive.

Staff

Human resource policies and plans that provide respective levels of support.

Levels of Support

Level I

Peer Run

Peer recovery support in a democratically run living environment.

Level II

Monitored

Peer recovery support and structure implemented by house rules with an emphasis on community and accountability.

Level III

Supervised

Peer recovery support plus extended-care programming with an emphasis on (re)habilitative life skill development.

Level IV

Service
Provider

Peer recovery support plus life skills and clinical programming.

Administrative Standard

Level I

Peer Run

- Democratically run, peer-based; residents are self-monitoring and accountable to one another.

Level II

Monitored

- Overseen by Compensated Peer Staff (house manager or senior resident).

Level III

Supervised

- Overseen by professional staff.

Level IV

Service
Provider

- Often aligned or attached with a licensed treatment provider. Overseen by credentialed and qualified management team.

Services Standard

Level I

Peer Run

- Drug Screening.
- House meetings.
- Self help meetings encouraged.

Level II

Monitored

- House rules and meetings provide structure.
- Peer run groups.
- Drug Screening.
- Involvement in self help and/or treatment services.

Level III

Supervised

- Life skill development emphasis.
- Clinical services utilized in outside community.
- Service hours provided in house.

Level IV

Service
Provider

- Clinical services and programming are provided in house.
- Life skill development.

Environment Standard

Level I

Peer Run

- Generally single family residences.

Level II

Monitored

- Generally single family residences or apartment type dwellings.

Level III

Supervised

- Varies – all types of residential settings.

Level IV

Service
Provider

- All types – often a step down phase within care continuum of a treatment center; may be a more institutional in environment.

Staff Standard

Level I

Peer Run

- No paid positions within the residence.
- Perhaps an overseeing officer.

Level II

Monitored

- At least 1 compensated position.

Level III

Supervised

- Facility manager.
- Certified staff or case managers.

Level IV

Service
Provider

- Credentialed staff.

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